

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2010**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 5

**SUBJECT: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING:
 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ZONING
 ORDINANCE RELATED TO SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE WIND
 TURBINE SYSTEMS, POD 10-007 (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW:

On February 25, 2009 (2), your Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer to streamline the regulations for wind turbine systems by developing a two-tiered ordinance for wind energy systems to simplify the process and update the code.

Pursuant to this direction, in late 2009 the Department of Planning and Land Use drafted a comprehensive ordinance. The proposed ordinance was circulated for public review in early 2010. Currently staff is working on an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed ordinance of comprehensive changes to Wind Turbine Regulations. This proposal is to make minor amendments to the existing Wind Turbine Regulations in the Zoning Ordinance while the more comprehensive changes to streamline these regulations are under further environmental review. The proposed amendments will allow additional wind turbines with an Administrative Permit under the Medium Wind Turbine provisions. Existing size limitations will remain in place. The amendment will also add findings for approval of medium wind turbine systems and remove references to California Assembly Bill 1207 that was repealed in 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT:

With the proposed changes in regulations, the number of requests for small wind turbine permits in the unincorporated county may increase. The proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance would further County goals of utilizing alternative passive and renewable energy resources, as well as minimizing economic impacts of energy supply and demand by creating the potential for alternative sources of energy. This ordinance will provide additional opportunities for development of small wind turbines when compared to the existing process.

RECOMMENDATION:

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the minor ordinance amendments would have a significant effect on the environment (Attachment C) and;

2. Adopt the Ordinance (Attachment A):

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ZONING
ORDINANCE RELATED TO SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE WIND
TURBINE SYSTEMS

PLANNING COMMISSION

On July 23, 2010, the Planning Commission, by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 absent, recommended the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance amendments related to small, medium and large wind turbine systems.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Roberts, seconded by Supervisor Jacob, the Board closed the Hearing and took action as recommended, adopting Ordinance No. 10073 (N.S.), entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE RELATED TO SMALL, MEDIUM AND LARGE WIND TURBINE SYSTEMS.

AYES: Cox, Jacob, Slater-Price, Roberts, Horn

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State of California)

County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

THOMAS J. PASTUSZKA

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By 
Marvice E. Mazyck, Deputy

